

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is an unthinkable threat to democracy. They must not be allowed to air it. If conservatives want to promote anti-Kerry propaganda, they are more than welcome to do it in the way that pro-Kerry documentaries have been presented: in movie theaters and other private venues. This kind of single-party rhetoric has no place on public airwaves.

This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, private interests gain too much power over American decision-making. A diverse media is central to a democracy. Sinclair's actions show why we need to work toward a more diverse media in the United States, and loosen the grip of companies like Sinclair and Clearchannel.

Thank you.

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